TEALE DATA CENTER
Partnership NEWS

Data Center Consolidation
– A Message from Director Ramos and Director Moise

In recent months, various ideas and recommendations have been discussed regarding the topic of consolidating the Teale Data Center and the Health and Human Services Data Center (HHSDC) into a single organization. The Legislative Analyst's office, State CIO, Department of Finance and Legislative budget committees have all weighed in on this issue. While the specifics vary by organization, each entity bases its proposals on the same underlying premises:

- The data centers are a valuable enterprise technology resource which the State can leverage more effectively;

- Through some combination of consolidation and centralization of the State's infrastructure, the State can achieve additional operational efficiencies;

- Fiscal savings in procurements can occur as a result of the combined purchasing power of the data centers, and;

- Consolidation of the data centers can enhance the management of the State's IT portfolio.

Most recently, the Department of Finance was tasked by the Legislature with convening a group of key stakeholders to develop recommendations for consolidating the data centers. The goal is to ensure that this effort will contribute to the responsible and effective management of California's IT resources and infrastructure.

Key stakeholders have already engaged in discussions on the issues surrounding consolidation. A consistent theme seems to be that a consolidated enterprise data center could potentially achieve significant benefits – such as, providing customers with improved services in a more expeditious and cost-effective manner. This potential, however, can only be achieved if the consolidated organization is responsive, more accountable to customers, better aligned to customer needs, more flexible and efficient. Although the idea of consolidation is still in the conceptual stage, it is important that planners understand not only the potential benefits, but also the possible risks.

Accordingly, as the State explores the concept of consolidation, we would like to assure customers that our goal, as always, is to ensure that the data centers individually or collaboratively continue to provide you with the highest level of service.

TECHNOLOGY ▪ LEADERSHIP ▪ SERVICE

Teale Director In the Spotlight

In the Arena Award

Teale Data Center's Director, Carlos Ramos, is the recipient of the distinguished *In the Arena* Award – one of the highest honors and acknowledgements from the Center for Digital Government, a national research and advisory institute for government and education IT leaders. Ramos received the award for his outstanding innovation, dedication and leadership in utilizing IT to improve the overall delivery of government services to citizens.

"It is a pleasure to present this award to Mr. Ramos," said Cathilea Robinett, Executive Director of the Center for Digital Government. "He has demonstrated strong leadership and played a key role in strengthening government operations in California and improving the services delivered to citizens."

The Center's *In the Arena* awards program was created over two years ago with the intention of publicly acknowledging state and local government IT leaders for their hard work and innovative ideas. Past recipients from California include Los Angeles CIO Jon Fullinwider; Contra Costa County CIO Steve Steinbrecher; and California Public Employees' Retirement System CIO Jack Corrie. A profile of Director Ramos and past recipients of *In the Arena* awards can be viewed at: **www.centerdigitalgov.com/center/arenastory.phtml?docid=52518**.

(Article Source: *Center for Digital Government*)

Sun Microsystems Newsletter

Director Ramos was also featured in an August issue of the *Sun Microsystems Executive Boardroom Minutes,* which is distributed to IT industry executives and professionals. This publication provides expert advice, technology features and success stories to assist executives in achieving greater business efficiency with IT investments. Mr. Ramos was asked to provide insight and perspectives regarding trends and issues affecting information technology in California State Government.

Chief Information Officers (CIO) Summit

The CIO Summit sessions hosted by the Teale Data Center are excellent forums for customers and Teale staff to discuss current information technology and related issues impacting governmental entities. Customer input at these sessions is also used to plan the course of direction for Data Center projects and organizational goals.

The CIO Fall Summit, scheduled for October 24 at the Teale facility in Rancho Cordova, will provide customers with an overview and discussion of several important topics, including:

- Data Center Consolidation
- Teale Billing Rates
- Security Update
- "My California" Portal

Department CIOs may confirm their attendance for this event by contacting Chris Krinke-Lee at chris.krinke-lee@teale.ca.gov or (916) 464-3747 (CALNET 433-3747).

Executive Briefings Program

As part of Teale's Executive Briefings Program, on September 23, the Data Center hosted the second in a series of IT management presentations by the META Group, titled "The Role of Enterprise Architecture in the Public Sector."

This session focused on enterprise architecture as a planning discipline that enables effective information processing and sharing at the federal, state, local, agency and department levels. It also emphasized the importance of implementing a cohesive eGovernment strategy in order to effectively provide services in the Information Age.

The Executive Briefings are offered free of charge, so mark your calendars for the next event in this series:

> **Portfolio Management**
> Wednesday, October 22, 2003
> Department of Education Auditorium
> 1500 Capitol Avenue, Sacramento

We Value Your Feedback….

In an ongoing effort to keep customers informed of the latest changes and trends in IT, the Data Center facilitates Technology Days and related events on a regular basis. These seminars, which are offered at no cost to customers, provide an opportunity for government representatives, technology vendors and industry experts to share information on current IT issues and discuss innovative business tools and solutions.

To ensure that the topics at these presentations are informative and timely, we ask that you complete the *Technology Day Survey* on the Teale web site at **www.teale.ca.gov/contact/tdaysurvey.asp**. Customer feedback will be used to determine topics for future seminars and enhance the value of these events.

We appreciate your taking the time to complete the short survey and look forward to your comments!

Operational Recovery – Protecting California's Technology Services

Have you thought about what would happen if any of your department's critical applications were disrupted? Would it pose a threat to the public's health or safety – or possibly result in the State's inability to provide critical services to its residents? Though no one wants to think about disasters and the havoc that they bring, it is always a good idea to be prepared.

Teale recognizes the importance of your department's ability to meet its public responsibilities and offers an Operational Recovery program that ensures the continuity of computer resources and services in the event of a major disruption at our facility. Customers who subscribe to this service have the ability to restore their critical applications through Teale's backup recovery procedures, which are designed in such a way that recovery can be accomplished at an alternative facility within 72 hours of an operational disruption. Recovery services are provided for various system platforms, including mainframe and midrange systems.

California Government Code Section 11773 requires state agencies to develop Operational Recovery plans for their information technology activities; and California further requires that agencies have a functional Business Recovery Plan in place for their facility. Teale can assist you to develop these important plans and offers consulting at all levels, including development, implementation and testing.

We invite you to learn more about the Operational Recovery and Business Resumption Services that Teale offers. Please call your Customer Relations Representative at (916) 464-3712 (CALNET 433-3712) to find out how we can assist your department to protect its critical applications and ensure that your services continue to be delivered to Californians, even if a disaster strikes.

Electronic News

Would you like to receive timely articles regarding upcoming events and system-related changes at Teale Data Center?

Teale's Electronic News (ENews) is the most efficient means for customers to obtain current information regarding a wide range of subjects, including:

- Changes to Teale's Network and Computing Environments
- Emergency Security Notifications
- Technology Presentations
- Training Classes
- Administrative Updates

Subscribe to this free e-mail service at **www.teale.ca.gov/news/enews.asp**, or send an e-mail to majordomo@web04.ca.gov and type SUBSCRIBE ENEWS in the message area.

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